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SUBJECT: Economic Intelligence Service of the Austrian Steel Industry (V.O.St.).

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On 3 October 1953, Emu (Baron) MAST, arrived in Rome with his son (a young officer in the Austrian police), to confer with Karl HASS to whom he had announced his arrival by letter dated 21 September 1953 (copy of which is attached, untranslated).

2. MAST proposed that HASS collaborate with economic information service of the V.O.St. (Austrian Steel industry) of Linz as director for the Italian Sector. This industry is the ex-"Herman Goering" steel works of Linz. The importance of this industrial group is not such as to justify, in the slightest degree, the establishment of its own economic information service abroad, and, therefore, it is evident that it is a cover. However, it is difficult to establish what service is involved.
3. HASS is not in position to throw any light on the matter. It is even difficult to evaluate MAST himself. It appears that the head of an Austrian delegation in Milan, one ALTENBURGER, is a cousin of MAST. On 7 October, Baron MAST left for Genoa and Milan where he was to meet with his cousin.

4. No copy is retained. Date of Info: Early October 1953. Date Acquired: 13 October 1953.

* During his stay in Rome, MAST and his son were guests of HASS.

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